FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 JUNE 1985

Hijacking Crisis

Amal movement leader Nabih Birri announced 17 June that he had agreed to mediate in the hijacking crisis after receiving guarantees from the hijackers that they will not harm their remaining hostages, MENA reported. Contacts continued throughout the morning between Birri and the hijackers through Amal's representative at Beirut airport, according to Beirut radio. Birri had earlier called his men for a general mobilization as a precaution against any attempt to free the hostages by force, AFP reported. Meanwhile, the hijackers limited their demands to the release of Lebanese detainees in Israel and of two others imprisoned in Spain, Voice of Lebanon radio noted. Israeli Police Minister Hayim Bar-Lev confirmed 17 June that the United States has not appealed to Israel to release some 700 Shi'ite prisoners, but he said Israel would "seriously" consider such an appeal if it is made, noting that Israel was intending to release them anyway, Jerusalem radio reported. The 32 American hostages had appealed to President Reagan to convince Israel to release the Lebanese detainees, Beirut radio announced earlier. As for the two men held in Spain, Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran stated that his government will never give in to the hijackers' demand for their release, Madrid radio disclosed.

The hijackers had earlier described themselves as "the oppressed on earth" in a communique broadcast by Algiers radio during the plane's second visit to Algiers, asserting that they have "no connection with any organization which previously claimed responsibility for the operation." Meanwhile, an Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by Tehran radio stressed that Iran "strongly denies any hand" in the hijacking of the American airliner.

Lebanon

Amal and the Palestinians — Fighting continued between Amal and Palestinian gunmen in Beirut 15 June with Amal tightening its control on the outskirts of the Shatila camp, Beirut radio reported. A PLO statement cited by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio claimed that Syrian special units were assisting Amal in the renewed assault on the Palestinians. Nevertheless, contacts in Damascus among Amal, the National Democratic Front, and the Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF) have resulted in a cease-fire agreement that provides for Amal's withdrawal to its positions before the fighting and for the policing of the Palestinian camps by Lebanese Internal Security Forces, according to Radio Monte Carlo. The 13-point accord also considers the PNSF as the recognized political leadership of the Palestinians in Lebanon. However, the PNSF subsequently disclosed that "areas of disagreement" still existed on several points, according to the radio. For the PLO's part, a source cited by Baghdad Voice of PLO denounced the agreement in Damascus, asserting that the Palestinians in the Beirut camps reject any formula for the removal of their weapons. In a related development Al-Shariqah's *AL-KHALIJ* reported that the Syrian authorities have arrested nearly 1700 Palestinians residing in Syria and have prevented Fatah dissident Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha from leaving for Libya.

In an earlier incident in the Lebanese capital, Beirut radio reported that a 14 June car-bomb near the Summerland Hotel caused 50 casualties. The Sunni group Al-Murabitun claimed responsibility in a statement cited by Voice of Lebanon radio, indicating that the operation was aimed against the predominantly Shi'ite 6th Brigade of the Lebanese Army.

South Lebanon — The army of southern Lebanon (ASL) released its 21 Finnish captives on 15 June and the Finns departed after "friendly handshakes" with ASL commander General Antoine Lahd, Jerusalem radio reported. In a statement on the affair broadcast by Voice of Hope radio, Lahd expressed hope that the Finns' release will end "ambiguities" and lead to understanding and coordination between the ASL and UNIFIL. Jerusalem radio subsequently reported that UNIFIL is now allowing the ASL unrestricted movement in Israel's "security strip."

Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab Summit — Sixteen Arab states have announced their agreement with Moroccan King Hassan II's call for an emergency Arab summit on the Palestinian question but Syria opposes such a summit and the position of several other states is still unclear, an Arab League source asserted in a statement cited by KUNA 14 June. Clarifying Libya's stance, JANA subsequently stated that the Jamahiriyah will attend a summit if it is held to discuss events in the Beirut refugee camps, but will stay away if it is for the purpose of discussing the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and Egypt's reinstatement in the Arab League.

Saudi-Libyan Relations — Saudi King Fahd received a Libyan envoy in Mecca the evening of 12 June, Riyadh television noted.

Iran-Iraq

Iraq will cease bombing "selected targets inside Iranian cities" for 2 weeks from 15-30 June, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn announced in his 14 June message to the Iranian people broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. He also outlined "practical principles" to achieve peace including a comprehensive cease-fire, POW exchange, and direct negotiations. That same day, the Iraqi military communique carried by Baghdad radio listed 5 air raids and missile attacks on 14 Iranian cities, while Tehran radio tallied 702 casualties from these Iraqi attacks. Iran mounted the "Jerusalem" offensive 14 June in the Hawr al-Hawizah region in conjunction with international Jerusalem Day demonstrations and in reply to Iraqi attacks; several waterways including Basharat waterway, 6 km of the Basra-Baghdad road, and 100 sq km of territory were "liberated," according to Tehran radio. IRNA noted that by 16 June, the Iranian soldiers in the offensive maintained their "superiority" by killing and wounding

110 Iraqis and capturing 90, in addition to taking control of 5 Iraqi posts or villages. The Iranian communique for 16 June carried by the agency, in addition to the Jerusalem offensive statistics, also claimed that an Iraqi "war plane and helicopter gunship" were shot down east of the Tigris River on 15 June, but an Iraqi military spokesman denied the claim as a "lie" in a 16 June statement to INA. Iran also claimed that its missile attack on Baghdad 15 June resulted in 170 casualties, Tehran radio stated.

Egypt-Iraq

Noting no changes in Egypt's position on the Iran-Iraq war, Iraq's Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz stated he was pleased with the outcome of his meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on 15 June, Cairo radio noted. Following talks with 'Aziz during the 1-day visit, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid observed that Egyptian and Iraqi views are "identical," the radio added.

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Foreign Affairs Minister Leaves for Geneva
LD170723 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 17 Jun 85

[Text] Kabul, June 16, BAKHTAR — Shah Mohammad Dost, minister of foreign affairs of the DRA heading a delegation, left for Geneva.

He will participate at the talks aimed at solution of the situation around Afghanistan.

Soviet, DRA Forces Planning Offensive on Nurestan
GF151222 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Text] The Pakistani newspaper *NAWA-E WAQT* today said that about 20,000 Soviet-DRA forces are planning to carry out an offensive in the Nurestan Valley in eastern Afghanistan.

During the past 5 years, Soviet forces have failed to capture the Nurestan belt which is adjacent to the Pakistani border. Afghan revolutionary sources have indicated that the Soviets have deployed surface-to-surface missiles in the Barikowt area near the Pakistani border.

Security Forces Capture 36 Chinese-Made Missiles
LD151649 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Text] As a result of the successful operations carried out in Takhta-e Qal'eh, Qazi Region by the courageous and brave security forces, a number of Chinese-made surface-to-surface missiles were seized.

The BIA correspondent reports that in these operations 36 missiles, directed at Kabul city to destroy houses and to kill our innocent and toiling people by the criminal and murdering Jamiet-e Islami band, were discovered by the security forces — these earnest defenders of the people.

Kabul Reports 16 Rebels Killed in Explosion
LD160522 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Text] Kabul, June 15, BAKHTAR — Sixteen counter-revolutionary elements were killed as a result of the explosion of the foodstuff depot of the band of Harakat located between Peshawar and Naw Shar of Pakistan by unknown people, reports reaching here say. A number of people were also wounded and the foodstuffs were completely destroyed.

The explosion of two mines on the road of Parachinar ended in the loss of life of three persons and the wounding of another ten persons. Likewise, the explosion of another mine on the road of Kurm agency ended in the exploding of a tractor. The driver of the tractor was killed and the foodstuffs being carried by the tractor were destroyed as a result of the incident.

These explosions are indicative of grave discords between various bands of the counter-revolution stationed in Pakistan.

'Counterrevolutionaries' Killed in Bomb Blast
LD170842 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT 17 Jun 85

[Text] Kabul, June 16, BAKHTAR: According to the news reaching here, the difference between the counter-revolutionary bands in Pakistan have exacerbated to an unprecedented scale. As a result of the explosion of a time bomb, implanted in Mohabat Hotel of Peshawar, nine Afghan counter-revolutionaries including 2 Pakistani officers were killed and 12 others injured. The time-bomb was planted by the counter-revolutionary band of Gulbuddin to attain supremacy over other bands.

48 Counterrevolutionaries Surrender in Konduz
LD162140 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Text] Forty-eight of our compatriots who had been with the ranks of the counterrevolution, recently welcoming the message of the Loya Jerga delegates, laid down their weapons and surrendered to the security authorities in Konduz Province.

Quoting a responsible security force, a BIA correspondent reports that these persons, who were previously members of the so-called Eslami bands of Mawlawi Khales and Harakat-e Eslami, also brought along their weapons which included Chinese rocket launchers, heavy American machineguns, Egyptian kalashnikovs, and other equipment. The report adds that the surrendered persons, repenting their past actions, were organized at the security posts of Chahar Dar District, Konduz Province.

Kabul Criticizes Radio 'Free Afghanistan'
LD160019 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Excerpts] A political commentator of the BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY writes: The U.S. Congress has recently approved an amendment according to which a new radio station under the name of so-called Free Afghanistan will be created as part of the anti-Afghan crusade under the supervision of the CIA. The Washington Administration has set aside around $500,000 for this subversive radio station in the coming fiscal year.

The creation of the subversive radio station of so-called Free Afghanistan is another spreader of lies, which along with other radio stations such as the Voice of America, Free Europe, Liberty, BBC, Deutsche Welle and other imperialist propaganda stations, is promoting propaganda war against the DRA. Since the beginning of the April Revolution an imperialist undeclared war has been waged against our people and country in various spheres. International imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism and reaction of the Arab region, has not spared any crime against our people and homeland in an effort to overthrow the toilers' sovereignty in our country. They have intensified subversive activities in the existence of an imperialist undeclared war. They have given (?priority) to the propaganda war and psychological terror in the undeclared war against our country. Propaganda and the spreading of counterrevolutionary, anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet thoughts among the people, justification of the coun-

terrevolution's crimes, weakening of the people's morale and their support for the progressive and humane objectives, drawing the people to the ranks of reaction and counterrevolution and slowing down the process of socio-economic development, are all objectives of imperialist psychological war against our country.

U.S. imperialism for its own sinister objectives against our revolutionary country and the region has transformed Pakistan entirely into a center for hostile activities and a springboard of aggression against our country. The territory of Pakistan has been transformed into a base for training and arming terrorists and professional murderers, who will be sent from there to Afghanistan in exchange for military aid. In addition to 100 hours of anti-Afghan broadcast by Radio Pakistan, 12 hours of special programs have been organized by (?three) radio stations against the DRA. Now, the so-called radio stations of the so-called Free Afghanistan, Free Europe and Liberty are due to be set up on Pakistani territory — the center for the undeclared war against our country. This fact also makes clear that the military regime in Islamabad in subservience to the criminal U.S. does not spare any crime.

For its sinister objectives the U.S. has increased the budget of the Voice of America in 1983 by 32 percent to $151 million in order to provide better facilities for psychological subversion and intensification of psychological war against Afghanistan, and later introduced an annual increase of 27 percent. The so-called radios of Free Afghanistan, Free Europe and Liberty will be supervised by the CIA.

If U.S. imperialism — this enemy of the workers of our country and those of Pakistan — really believes in humanity and humanism, it can spend billions of dollars, which are now spent on activities of subversive radio stations to sabotage people's thoughts and opinions, for social progress and prosperity. More than 7 years of the revolution in our country is the unshakable proof of the will of our people — who have chosen the path of development and progress. Our people have fully realized their class enemies and their malicious aims.

BAKHTAR Views U.S. Support for World Terrorism

LD170837 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 17 Jun 85

[Text] Kabul, June, 16 BAKHTAR — Just at the time when boy pupils were gravely wounded as a bomb exploded in a Medresah in the Afghan town of Herat, Contras in Nicaragua effected a gangster raid on a village close to the Honduras border. The two outrages occurred simultaneously with the U.S. Congress approving the allocation of another 30 million dollars on murder and other crimes in Nicaragua. The United States also intends to earmark additional funds on terrorist activities perpetrated by its hirelings in Afghanistan, Angola, Laos and other Third World countries.

The Reagan administration is justifying its international thuggery by the cynical claims on the right to determine what government, in its view, is legitimate and what is not. Thus, CIA chief William Casey asserted in an interview with *U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT* that the governments of Nicaragua, Afghanistan and Kampuchea were not legitimate. At the same time, the USA recognises the counter-revolutionary forces financed and instructed from Washington.

The United States is a mastermind of undeclared wars in various regions of the world from Nicaragua to Afghanistan, stimulating an exchange of experience between cut-throats. There are even plans to set up a centre at the White House to distribute overt aid among them.

Evidence of this is the recent gathering at a secret UNITA camp in Angola where patrons from the USA met with delegates from the Nicaraguan, Afghan and Laotian counter-revolutionary riff-raff. The bandits were even greeted and briefed by Ronald Reagan's personal envoy who read out the President's message. One can get an idea about the sort of people serving the occupant of the White House by the recent revelation of Congressman Charles Schumer on Nicaraguan Contras. He quoted the President as calling them fighters for freedom but he referred to them as fascists Afghan fighters for faith exploding Medresahs and committing other monstrous atrocities belong to the category of the same obscurants thirsty for murder and ruins. [sentence as received]

But it is also clear that CIA mercenaries are powerless to bring the peoples of the newly-free states to their knees before the empire of the dollar. Therefore, Washington is clearing the way to direct intervention and building up assistance to its military satellites, like Honduras or Pakistan, in their armed provocations against neighbours.

They are also exploited as bridgeheads for conducting Reagan's undeclared wars. Washington has already hastened to take concrete measures to veil its state-sponsored terrorism with greater legality. Congress anulled Boland's amendment banning the use of force to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government and abrogated Clark's amendment barring the White House from giving military and financial aid to subversive groupings in Angola.

The U.S. arbitrary action on the world scene has been increasingly ruthless. It is time for the world community to voice its protest against such a dangerous and abnormal development and oblige the Reagan administration to resume the strict observance of the UN Charter signed by the United States.

BAKHTAR Cites Kabul Daily on U.S. 'Aid' to Pakistan

LD170851 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 17 Jun 85

[Text] Kabul, June 16, BAKHTAR — Following the unprecedented flow of money and armaments to the dictatorial regime of Pakistan, USA has resorted to a new act of "generosity". During a farce and semi-official ceremony in Islamabad a 3 million dollar contract was concluded between USA and Pakistan. Under the guise of the so-called economic assistance, Washington intends to link Pakistan closer to the U.S. military strategy adventurous schemes, writes daily *HAQIQAT-E ENGLAB-E SAWR*.

One should stress on the point how the ceremony of signing the contract was changed into a cynical anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet show. The U.S. ambassador to Pakistan, Deane Hinton, by

bringing of the so-called "Afghanistan threat" and similar myths strives, on the one hand, to cover the real intention of its "aid" and military actions in the region and, on the other, by heartening the Pakistan regime about the continuous U.S. aid, to continue the undeclared war and other destructive activities against Afghanistan.

The crux of the matter is not that Pakistan should not seek foreign aid for its economic development. The main essence of this policy lies in the fact that how they make use of such "aids". They ostensibly allege that these "aids" are put at the disposal of the military regime for the socio-economics development of Pakistan, the article adds.

The experience of the 3.2 billion dollar deal between Washington and Islamabad quite show the reverse. As a result of this deal, the military regime of Islamabad instead of constructing economic establishment and industrial infrastructure resorted to the purchase of sophisticated weapons, i.e. F-16 fighter planes, Harpoon and air to air-90 rockets, etc., for exceeding the needs of the country. These "aids" enabled the military regime of Pakistan to attain the capacity of producing nuclear weapons and seriously threaten peace and security in the region, the article adds.

The military rulers of Pakistan proved in practice that such "aid" will be used not for the socio-economic development of the country but for hatching plots, aggression and undeclared war against the DRA and India. Such "aid" has brought unbearable miseries for the Pakistani people. The working people of Pakistan are bending down under the heavy burden of 13 billion dollars debt.

By working out such farce shows, Washington tries to change Pakistan as the main circle in its activities in the region and to exacerbate, moreover, the tension-ridden situation, the article concludes.

SPA Reports Mujahidin Kill 70 Soviet Troops

GF161504 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1100 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Text] Islamabad, 16 Jun (SPA) — The Afghan mujahidin repelled an attack by the Soviet troops on their positions in Konarha Province last Monday, killing 70 Soviet troops. A statement issued in Islamabad today by the Islamic Union of the Afghan Mujahidin said that the Soviet planes raided the positions of the Afghan mujahidin and wounded 12 mujahidin troops. The statement said that the mujahidin clashed with a Soviet military convoy which tried to advance in the area on 24 April, wounding several persons. One of the mujahidin was martyred in this operation.

Voice of Islamic Revolution on Mujahidin Operations

GF151936 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Pashto 1700 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Text] According to recents reports, our Muslim mujahidin blew up a gas pipeline that takes natural gas belonging to the Afghan people to the Soviet Union. The explosion caused a fire that raged for several hours. The Soviet occupationist forces and Karmal mercenaries tried to control the fire and also attacked mujahidin positions. They attacked the Chahar-Paykay area which had been mined by the mujahidin. The mujahidin fire and mines destroyed seven enemy tanks and armored vehicles, killing 21 Karmal soldiers and wounding 16. The mujahidin also captured arms and communication equipment. In retaliation the enemy bombed villages in the area and caused casualties among the civilians. They also killed 100 head of cattle.

A report from Baghlan said that Soviet and Karmal soldiers in Barkah area of Nahrin subdistrict attacked mujahidin positions but suffered a number of casualties including four dead.

President Departs for South Korea, Japan 14 June

BK140946 Dhaka Overseas Srvice in Bengali 0635 GMT 14 Jun 85

[Text] President Hussain Mohammad Ershad left Dhaka today for a 5-day visit to the ROK and a 4-day visit to Japan. The weather was sunny and bright. Mrs Raushan Ershad accompanied him. Among the others accompanying the president are Anwar Hussain, minister of energy and mineral resources, and Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, foreign affairs adviser.

Talking to newsmen at the airport, the president said that during his stay in Seoul he will hold talks with the ROK president, prime minister, and other leaders on matters of mutual interest. On his Japan visit, the president said that Bangladesh maintains very good relations with Japan and his visit will further strengthen bilateral friendship, understanding, and cooperation.

A well-dressed contingent of the Armed Forces presented a guard of honor to the president at the airport. The two deputy martial law administrators, Cabinet ministers, senior civil and military officials, and members of the diplomatic corps bade farewell to the president.

Departure Statement

BK141312 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 14 Jun 85

[Excerpt] The Bangladesh president, Hussain Mohammad Ershad, has gone to Seoul to begin a 10-day visit to South Korea and Japan. Begum Raushan Ershad; the minister for energy and mineral resources, Mr Anwar Hussain; and the foreign affairs adviser, Mr Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, are accompanying him.

Talking to newsmen at the Zia International Airport before leaving Dhaka, President Ershad said he is carrying with him the warm and sincere good wishes of the 100 million people of Bangladesh for the friendly people of South Korea and Japan. He expressed his firm belief that his visit will brighten the prospects of increased bilateral cooperation with the two fellow Asian nations. The president said he feels distressed because he is going at a time when relief operations are still on for the unfortunate cyclone victims of the country. He is undertaking the visit for the greater national interest, he added.

Replying to a question, the president said the question of lifting the ban on political activities in the country will be considered after 'Id al-Fitr. He said he may start a fresh dialogue with political parties to arrive at a consensus on holding the national elections for transition to democracy. He said we want democracy through elections. We want to achieve this goal with greater understanding with all.

Delhi: Opposition Parties Reject Dialogue Offer

BK161615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Text] In Bangladesh, two major opposition parties have rejected the latest offer of dialogue by President Ershad. The chief of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, Mrs Khalida Zia, who was released last month from house arrest, told newsmen in Dhaka today that the dialogue would be fruitless. She said President Ershad is not sincere in reaching an understanding with the opposition parties and is only trying to gain time. The leader of the Awami League, Mr Hashina Wajed, had earlier rejected the offer saying that he is not interested in any dialogue with the government.

President Ershad had offered to open a fresh dialogue with the opposition parties after his return from official visits to South Korea and Japan.

Reportage on Gandhi Tour to U.S., Switzerland

Delhi Reports U.S. Meetings

BK141605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Jun 85

[Text] The prime minister began his last day in Washington with meetings with some of the top people in the U.S. economic administration. The chairman of the board of the U.S. Chambers of Commerce, Mr (Frank Masani), and the chairman of the India-U.S. Business Council, Mr (Agal Freeman), met Mr Rajiv Gandhi at breakfast. This meeting was followed by a call on the prime minister by the U.S. treasury secretary, Mr James Baker. While details of the discussions at these meetings are not yet available, the All India Radio correspondent, Manohar Takroo, reports that the main subject was possible U.S. collaboration in India's economic development.

Another top U.S. minister to meet Mr Rajiv Gandhi was the defense secretary, Mr Caspar Weinberger. There have been reports in the U.S. media that India is considering buying some U.S. arms and equipment, but these have been denied by the Indian delegation. According to reports India is not seriously considering this question. There are two problems why India does not buy U.S. military equipment. One is that the U.S. Administration insists on the right to alter the terms of supply with retrospective effect. The second is their reliability as a supplier of spare parts and other equipment. It will still take some time before India has confidence in the U.S. as arms supplier.

Gandhi Leaves for Geneva

BK160924 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, is now on his way to Geneva from Houston at the end of his 5-day visit to the United States. He will address the ILO session in Geneva tomorrow. Before leaving for home he is also due to address a press conference.

In a joint statement, India and the United States have urged all governments to take appropriate steps to combat the danger of organized terrorism. The statement said the emergence of such terrorism is a threat to peace and democracy. Mr Gandhi welcomed President Reagan's desire for consultation and close cooperation with the Indian Government on the international dimensions of terrorist violence against India. The statement says that Mr Gandhi and President Reagan considered in detail the situation in the South Asian region. The prime minister highlighted recent initiatives taken by India and the efforts of the countries of South Asia to further strengthen regional cooperation through SARC [South Asian Regional Cooperation]. Mr Reagan welcomed the steps being taken to promote regional stability and cooperation. Both the leaders have also stressed the importance of nuclear disarmament and welcomed the resumption of arms control negotiations as a step toward the elimination of nuclear weapons.

The statement adds that India and the United States have decided to remain in close touch to enhance their mutual understanding and reaffirmed their desire to increase bilateral relations. Encouraged by the success of science and technology collaboration, both the countries have decided to initiate two new efforts: The first is an action program to develop and produce new and improved vaccines against major communicable diseases; the second is a long-term research in technology development program covering activities in agriculture and forestry, health and nutrition, family welfare and biomedical research and industrial research and development. The United States will also share with India its experience in reducing pollution of large river system. A beginning has already been made with the recent discussions between the pollution control experts of the two countries and the possibilities of Indo-U.S. collaboration in the Ganga action plan.

The statment further says that America strongly supports the continuance of the important role of the World Bank and its affiliates in India's economic development. Mr Gandhi emphasized the importance of concessional finance to developing countries to ensure sustained balanced growth. Both the countries have noted with satisfaction that the memorandum of understanding on technology transfer and its implementation procedure signed recently should facilitate trade and collaboration in advance technology between the two countries.

Mr Gandhi and Mr Reagan were of the opinion that the current cultural festival [of India] in the United States would make a significant contribution to improving mutual understanding between the two countries. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, renewed his invitation to President Reagan to pay an official visit to India. President Reagan has accepted the invitation.

Gandhi Arrives in Switzerland

BK170428 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 Jun 85

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, arrived in Geneva from the United States yesterday on the last leg of his 5-nation foreign tour. He was received at the airport by the chairman of the Council of the Republic of Geneva, Mr (Jacques Wen), the director general, ILO, Mr Francis Blanchard, and India's ambassador to Switzerland, Mr (Muchkund Dube). In a brief statement at the airport, Mr Gandhi described Geneva as a center for efforts to ensure global peace. He said Switzerland always stood for peace and brotherhood. He also referred to India's long and friendly relation with Switzerland.

The All India Radio special correspondent, Manohar Takroo, reports from Geneva that the prime minister's engagement today is an address to the International Labor Organization. Mr Gandhi will also receive the John C. Philips medal on behalf of his mother, the late Mrs Gandhi, for her contribution to the conservation of nature. The award has been given by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. Mr Gandhi will address a press conference and will meet the members of the Indian community before leaving for home this evening.

Official Sources on PRC Offer on Lhasa Consulate

HK150420 Hong Kong AFP in English 0338 GMT 15 Jun 85

[By Govindan Unny]

[Text] New Delhi, June 15 (AFP) — China's latest proposal for the reopening of the Indian consulate-general in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa is unlikely to enhance prospects for a normalisation of Sino-Indian relations, official sources said today.

The main stumbling block for normalizing Sino-Indian relations was their 25-year-old border dispute and India believed this should be solved before improved ties in other fields were pursued, they added.

(A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said in Beijing yesterday that China had proposed that India reopen its consulate in Lhasa but had yet to receive a reply from New Delhi.)

The sources said the consulate proposal was only one of several China had made since the two governments began a dialogue to improve relations in 1981, adding that they were all "under consideration" by the Indian Government.

Further, they said, the Chinese had yet to specify the terms under which the consulate-general would be allowed to be reopened.

Before it was closed in 1962 in the wake of the border war between China and India, the consulate was the only foreign diplomatic mission in the Himalayan outpost.

Under the Sino-Indian treaty of 1954, India was also allowed to maintain trade agencies in Gyantse and Yatung.

The Chinese had not yet specified in their new proposal if they would agree to the restoration of the status quo ante amounting to an acceptance of India's special position in Tibet, the sources said.

The only country with a consulate-general in Lhasa at present is Nepal.

India believed that if it were to reopen its consulate-general without claiming any special relationship it would pave the way for China to invite other countries like Pakistan, Bangladesh and Bhutan to open similar missions in Lhasa, the sources added.

This could amount to a dilution of the Indian status in the eyes of the Tibetan people, they said.

Five rounds of talks have so far taken place between New Delhi and Beijing in an effort to resolve the border dispute, apparently without significant progress.

China claims more than 129,000 square km (50,000 sq miles) of her territory, including most of Arunachal Pradesh, is under Indian occupation.

India maintains that China has taken over 37,500 sq sm (14,500 sq miles) of its land in the northern border area of Ladakh and Aksai Chin close to Sinkiang.

After the last round of talks in September, Chinese Vice Premier Wan Li told visiting Indian officials that the boundary question was the only problem between the two countries.

He added that he was confident that given the sincerity and friendship on both sides the problem would be resolved eventually, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported.

Official sources, however, maintained that little progress had been made in the talks towards solving the vital border issue.

China is also believed to be keen on an early visit to Beijing by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. But Indian officials rule this out on the basis that a summit without preparing the ground would be counter-productive.

The next round of Sino-Indian talks is due to be held in Delhi towards the end of the year.

Delhi Reports Gorbachev Reply to Association

BK150946 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Text] The Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev, has praised India's role as leader of the Nonaligned Movement and appreciated its efforts in promoting world peace. Replying to a message from the All India Freedom Fighters Association, he said Indo-Soviet friendship constitutes an important factor for peace and stability in the world.

Jayewardene Brother, Sri Lanka Delegation Arrive

BK151439 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Text] A group of constitutional and legal experts from Sri Lanka arrived in New Delhi today for discussions with Indian experts. Led by Mr Hector Jayewardene, the brother of the Sri Lankan president Mr J.R. Jayewardene, the group met th attorney general of India, Mr K. Parasaran.

Longowal Condemns Terrorism, Supports Unity

BK161609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Text] The Akali Dal president, Sant Harchand Longowal, has strongly condemned the terrorist activity. Addressing a meeting of Hindus at Sangrur organized to promote communal harmony, he said no true Sikh can indulge in killing of innocent people. He said any Sikh who kills an innocent person, kills Guru Teg Bahadur and is, thus, not a true Sikh.

Mr Longowal said no one can weaken the age-old bonds of affection between Hindus and Sikhs. He urged the Hindus to cooperate with the Akali Dal in achieving the demands, which, he said, concerned all Punjabis.

Mr Longowal declared that his party is fully committed to the unity and integrity of India. It had always fought for the integrity

and defense of the country. How can we ever think of disintegrating it? he asked.

Police Arrest Suspected Sikh Extremists

HK150328 Hong Kong AFP in English 0257 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Text] New Delhi, June 14 (AFP) — Police in Punjab State today said they arrested 11 members of a gang of Sikh extremists reportedly planning a series of killings of political leaders and policemen, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) news agency reported.

PTI said the gang — whose members were arrested last night in a suburb of Patiala Town — was led by a former police constable and that the group was relieved responsible for seven murders, 14 robberies and two attempted murders.

Police, quoted by PTI, said they had found three hand guns and two rifles in the raid.

Sikhs in Punjab have been campaigning for more than four years to obtain greater religious and political autonomy for their state, and some separatist groups have been waging a violent campaign to seek an independent homeland.

17 'Terrorists' Arrested in Punjab; Arms Seized

BK150645 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Text] The Punjab police has arrested 10 more hard-core terrorists from Jullundur. According to an official spokesman the preliminary investigation has revealed their involvement in a number of terrorist activities. Some arms and ammunition have also been recovered from their possession. Seven alleged terrorists were arrested by the Patiala police on Thursday night [13 June].

Ziaul Haq Returns From Visit to Saudi Arabia

BK161532 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq returned to Islamabad this evening after a 4-day stay in Saudi Arabia. He performed minor pilgrimage and offered prayers at the Grand Mosque in Mecca. Senate Chairman Chulam Ishaq Khan, Vice Chief of Army Staff General Khalid Mahmud Arif, and high officials welcomed the president at the airport.

Junejo Willing To Discuss Afghanistan With USSR

BK170358 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 17 Jun 85

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has said Pakistan would like to begin direct talks with the Soviet Union to end the deadlock in the Afghanistan problem, as the Soviet Union has primary importance in this connection. In an interview with *NEWSWEEK*, the prime minister said we do not want to hold talks with the Karmal administration on this problem because it would not benefit the Afghan people. He said that he had told the outgoing Soviet ambassador about this as he said already [words indistinct] being an elected government, the talks could he held.

In reply to a question, the prime minister said that there is no possibility of any change in the relations between Pakistan and the United States after Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's visit to the United States. He said the United States has assured Pakistan that it will stick to the same policy it has been following for the past 7 years.

In reply to a question on U.S. arms sales to Pakistan, Mohammad Khan Junejo said we are buying these weapons not for any aggressive plans but for our own defense; India is a major power in the region. Due to the presence of Soviet forces in Afghanistan, the position of Pakistan has become very delicate. We should be ready to face any sudden situation originating with either side — India or Afghanistan. He said this with emphasis: We never object to India's buying of military equipment on such a large scale.

On Pakistan's atomic program the prime minister said our atomic program is to correct the (?paucity) of electricity in the country. We are ready to have mutual inspection of atomic installations with India and we will be happy to (?show) our peaceful atomic program.

Yaqub Khan 'Optimistic' About Afghanistan

BK170754 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 17 Jun 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has said that there are prospects for progress in connection with the settlement of the Afghanistan problem in the indirect talks beginning in Geneva on Thursday. These talks will be held under the supervision of Diego Cordovez, personal representative of the UN secretary general. Speaking to newsmen at Islamabad airport this morning before leaving for Geneva, the foreign minister said he is cautiously optimistic about the talks and our reflection in this connection is positive.

He said Pakistan's attempt in these talks will be to play a most effective role for a peaceful settlement of the Afghanistan problem. He said ever since this problem came into being Pakistan has concentrated all its attention on it. The foreign minister said he exchanged views on Afghanistan with Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko and Diego Cordovez. The latter has laid the foundations for the forthcoming talks, the objective of which is to clarify some matters and remove some misunderstandings. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that the president had also exchanged views on Afghanistan with Soviet leader Gorbachev in March this year. In reply to a question, the foreign minister confirmed that the stage to sign the agreement on this problem has come, and some initial work on the draft and documents of the agreement has already been done.

More on Yaqub Khan Comments

BK171040 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 17 Jun 85

[Excerpts] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has said there are prospects of progress on the settlement of Afghanistan problem during the indirect talks beginning in Geneva on Thursday under the auspices of the UN secretary general's personal representative, Dr Diego Cordovez. Talking to newsmen at the Islamabad airport before his departure for Geneva this morning, the foreign minister said Pakistan's endeavor toward these talks would be to make maximum contribution toward a peaceful settlement of the problem.

Asked to comment on an interview of the prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, with a foreign weekly saying that Paksitan would like to open direct talks with the Soviet Union on Afghanistan problem, he said apart from Geneva talks, there was a need for bilateral-level talks on the issue with the highest level of leadership in Moscow. These talks with the Soviet leaders would lead to positive results.

About the U.S.-Soviet talks in Washington on Afghanistan crisis, the foreign minister hoped that these discussions would be constructive and their impact would be positive and helpful. He said Pakistan would look toward these talks with positive development as these would be exclusively on Afghanistan.

State Minister Noorani Discusses Foreign Policy

GF161610 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 29 May 85 p 1

[Text] Islamabd, May 28: The minister of state for foreign affairs, Zain Noorani today strongly contradicted the assertion that Pakistan's policy on Afghanistan was not of its own and that it is dictated by America.

The minister was replying to a supplementary question in the National Assembly from Raja Shahid Zafar, who had stated that the Americans do not want a peaceful solution of the Afghanistan problem.

Replying to another supplementary, Mr. Noorani said that the foreign minister of Pakistan will soon take the members of the National Assembly into confidence and place before it the policy being pursued on Afghanistan.

When asked if in March 1983 the Soviet Union had offered Pakistan a solution of the Afghan crisis, Mr. Noorani said it was not a correct information.

Mr. Noorani said Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan will soon take the House into confidence on Pakistan's Afghan policy.

In his written reply the minister remarked the indirect talks had shown considerable progress. In this connection Mr. Noorani referred to a recent view of the Secretary General's special representative Mr Cordovez which was published in May 16 issue of the daily *MUSLIM* in which he had clearly stated that progress on a number of issues has been registered.

Mr. Noorani said this is not to minimise the importance of the outstanding issues and the difficulties in making further progress. But the problem is not, as the member appears to suggest, the indirect form of negotiations. The problem is basically that a mutually acceptable negotiated solution that is based on the principles enunciated by the several UN resolutions on Afghanistan requires both sides to be sincere in their approach to the negotiations. So far the other side has been more interested in utilising the forum of negotiations to progressively erode our principled position to obtain recognition for an illegitimate and unacceptable regime and to present the Afghan people and the world with a fait accompli brought about by the external use of force. It has shown little interest in negotiating a solution acceptable to the Afghan people. The government of Pakistan believes that neither will a stable solution be found nor will our own security be enhanced by legitimising a situation brought about by force. We are moreover, bound by the OIC resolution not to recognise the Kabul regime as long as foreign troops continue to stay in Afghanistan.

He said the government will, however, continue to seek a negotiated political solution that is acceptable to the Afghan people in the conviction that there can be no military solution, and in the conviction that sooner or later the other side will have to acknowledge that the people of Pakistan cannot be bullied into adopting an unprincipled policy towards Afghanistan which would only undermine their own long term security. This may take time, and may well involve certain burdens and sacrifices. But it is the only path that will lead to an acceptable and principled settlement of the problem of Afghanistan.

Zain Noorani in reply to a question denied the impression that the policy of the Pakistan Government on the Afghan issue was not on its own.

He said Pakistan could not be dictated to by any foreign agency on this issue and that it would continue to pursue the policy which suited its own national interests.

In reply to another supplementary the minister of state said it would not be proper to pinpoint any ambassador having expressed his view on this issue. There were many who had been speaking on it and gone beyond the scope of their duty.

Mr. Noorani had been asked by a member to give his views on the statement made by American ambassador concerning the issue. Without naming other ambassadors Mr. Noorani stated it would not be fair to mention one as there had been many others who had been expressing their views on the issue.

In reply to another supplementary Mr. Noorani said Pakistan would continue to strive to have the issue resolved in the light of the resolutions of the United Nations, the Islamic Conference and the Nonaligned Movement.

Minister on Pakistanis Arrested in Afghanistan

BK151229 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Excerpt] The minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Zain Noorani, has reiterated that Pakistan is wedded to its firm policy of noninterference in the internal affairs of any other country, even Afghanistan. He was speaking on the admissibility of an adjournment motion sought to be moved by Mr Mumtaz Ahmad Tarar relating to the Moscow Radio report about the arrest and confessions of three alleged Pakistanis in Afghanistan. He said Pakistan, as a matter of principle, does not interfere in the affairs of any country, and on its part, it will not tolerate interference in its affairs by any country, big or small. As for allegations made in the report, he said these were baseless, which the Kabul authorities have constantly been making as a publicity gimmick. There is not a (?shred) of evidence in support of these allegations. He said such allegations are standard technique of the Kabul regime. They regularly produce persons claimed to be saboteurs before the press, radio and TV. These people are made to utter such allegations and confessions. These [words indistinct] shows carry no credibility whatsoever anywhere in the world.

At the statement by the minister, the mover did not press his motion.

Assembly Discusses Border Violations, Trade

GF151036 Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jun 85 p 3

[Excerpts] Islamabad, June 11: The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Mr Zain Noorani, on Tuesday denied in the National Assembly during question hour that some Soviet soldiers crossed the Durand Line and entered into the borders of Pakistan.

He was replying to a question from Mian Mohammad Zaman who wanted to know if it was a fact that on March 18 some Russian soldiers crossed the Durand Line. The member also wanted to know for what purpose did these soldiers enter into our border and for how long did they stay in our territory. The minister of state said that the international media had carried this story which was completely inaccurate. He said no such incident had ever taken place and no Russian soldiers had crossed our borders.

Replying to a supplementary from Mr Gohar Ayub Khan, the minister denied that some paratroops of Karmal regime had dropped on the borders of Pakistan who later attacked the Barikowt stronghold of mujahidin.

Opium output: The minister for interior, Mr Mohammad Aslam Khattak, in answer to a question by Mian Muhammad Zaman said that 30 to 35 metric tons of opium was produced in the country in 1984-85, down from 300 to 400 tons per year.

The minister also said that the government was trying its best to reduce the production of opium to nil by giving incentives to the farmers. The attempt, he said, has been successful.

O n a question by Mr Gohar Ayub Khan, Mr Khattak said that 2,428 kgs of heroin was seized up to April 1985 and 56,389 kgs of charas during the period, whereas in 1984, 2,223 kgs of heroin and 43,311 kgs of charas was seized.

He assured the questioner that the ministry would not spare anybody involved in the smuggling of the contraband may he be high or low, adding that he was determined to curb the crime at all costs.

On a question about the export of wheat, flour and fine flour by Ch. Shujat Hassan, the parliamentary secretary for food and agriculture, Mr Mohammad Sidiq Khan Kanju, said that agreements were made with Iran in 1982-83 and 1983-84 to export an agregate of 300,000 tonnes. The bulk of that commitment was fulfilled in those two years. He said however the balance of 53,000 tonnes remained and this was exported in 1984-85.

THE MUSLIM Reports on West Karachi 27 May Riots

GF161603 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 28 May 85 P 1

[Excerpt] Karachi, May 27: Indefinite curfew was imposed in the Frontier Colony, Pathan Colony, Metroville, Banaras Chowk, Pirabad, Qasba Colony in Karachi West this afternoon following exchange of fire between a law enforcing agency and protestors demanding immediate release of those arrested last night by the police. Two persons, including a policeman, were killed and 10 others injured in today's incidents of violence in the city.

Protestors and law enforcing agency exchanged fire when police lobbed teargas shells to break a strong mob of 7,000 who had ghathered at the district commissioner and the sub-martial law administrator's office in the industrial estate this morning.

Soon after the incident groups of rioters spread in the narrow streets of this biggest industrial area of the country and tried to set on fire several factories. During the rampage, the irate mob attacked Golden Plastic Factory and set ablaze 80 motorcycles and cycles parked outside the factory. A small portion of the factory was also gutted. Similar attacks were also made at the Pakistan Tobacco Industry and a silk factory. A petrol pump and an oil tanker were set on fire.

THE MUSLIM Further Report

GF161641 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 30 May 85 p 1

[Text] Karachi, May 29: Violent mobs set ablaze a hotel, a car and two trucks in two different localities here today.

According to the Central Fire Brigade, two trucks were set on fire by people in Chakiwara at about 10 p.m. last night.

In another incident a car was partially gutted and furniture of a hotel was also set-ablaze by some unknown persons near Hasan Square, Gulshan-e-Iqbal.

Police have registered cases against the unknown accused.

Delhi Says Detained Leftist Leader Released

BK170402 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 Jun 85

[Text] In Pakistan, the president of the leftist National Liberation Front, Mr Miraj Mohammad Khan, has been released from detention in the Karachi central jail. Mr Khan was detained in August 1983 after he led an antimartial law demonstration in Karachi as part of the political agitation launched by the 9-party Movement for Restoration of Democracy.

Austrian Foreign Trade Office in Karachi Bombed

AU141917 Vienna Television Service in German 1730 GMT 14 Jun 85

[Text] Pakistan — Last night a bombing attack was carried out against the Foreign Trade Office of the Austrian Federal Chamber of Commerce in Karachi. Here is a photograph of the Foreign Trade Office from the archives. Unknown perpetrators threw a plastic bomb with a time fuse. A Pakistani night watchman suffered slight injuries as a result of the detonation. The material damage has been estimated at 200,000 schillings. The motives of the bombing attack are still unknown.

SRI LANKA

President Criticizes Opposition Head Bandaranaike

HK160750 Hong Kong AFP in English 0738 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Text] Colombo, June 16 (AFP) — President Junius Jayewardene has told an opposition leader that his advice on how to protect the island's Sinhalese majority was not needed.

Mr Jayewardene was referring to an appeal made by opposition Leader Anura Bandaranaike for security to be provided for Sinhalese fleeing Tamil separatist attacks in the north eastern Trincomalee District.

He accused Mr Bandaranaike, in a letter yesterday which was later released to the press, of seeking publicity rather than awaiting a considered reply from the president.

"I only wish to say that every citizen of Sri Lanka displaced will be returned to his home," Mr Jayewardene added.

In his letter, Mr Jayewardene said: "The Sinhalese people who have been forced to evacuate the Northern and Eastern Provinces will be resettled in their homes — every one of them, before any political settlement is implemented."

Thousands of Sinhalese civilians have fled the Trincomalee District after Tamil separatist attacks over the last week. A section of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamil minority are waging a violent campaign for a separate state in the north and east of the country, alleging discrimination at the hands of the Sinhalese majority.

Premadasa on Government Readiness for Talks

BK141319 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 14 Jun 85

[Excerpt] Prime Minister R. Premadasa has expressed the government's readiness to hold negotiations with anybody in an attempt to find solution to the problem facing the country today. But he said that the readiness of the government to hold negotiations should not be misunderstood as a fear for anybody. Addressing a public meeting which followed the opening of another reawakened [as heard] village in the Kolonne electorate yesterday, Mr Premadasa made it clear that everyone who considers this country their motherland are the common inheritors of it. He said that although there have been threats to the heritage of the people, the government will never allow anybody to interfere (?in it). The prime minister also expressed the hope that a solution to the problem of terrorism could be worked out in the near future.

Premadasa: Terrorist Activity Recedes

BK161145 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Excerpt] The entire world now has a correct understanding of the terrorist movement in Sri Lanka. This is particularly so of the Indian prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi, and other Indian leaders. In the light of all this, it is the duty of everyone in Sri Lanka to forget their differences and protect the unity of the country. This was stated by the prime minister, R. Premadasa, when he inaugurated the reawakened village of (Puttapitiya) in the Kalawana electorate yesterday.

Speaking further, Mr Premadasa pointed out that the problem of terrorism will not change with the change in government. He noted that the terrorist activity in the north and east has today receded. He added that the government is prepared to mete out justice if there is any ethnic community which is disadvantaged.

The prime minister said that certain sections are trying to provoke the people by giving wrong information. He paid tribute to the people who have not been fooled by such false information and have remained calm. He added that the Communist Party, the Lanka Sama Samaj Party and the Sri Lanka Mahajana Party are working toward peace in the country and not trying to stir the people.

National Security Minister Tours Trincomalee

BK141110 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 14 Jun 85

[Text] The security in the eastern province will be further strengthened, giving priority to the Trincomalee District. Special security will be provided to the Teravilla Raja Mahavihara [religious site]. The decision to strengthen security has been taken following the Trincomalee tour of the minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, yesterday. The minister held discussions with armed personnel and the police on the present situation in the country.

Food, dry rations, and other facilities are now being provided to those who are affected by the recent incidents in the Trincomalee district by the social services department. In addition to this, the district minister for Trincomalee, H.G.P. Nelson, has initiated a new program to get more relief for these people. He has requested donations in kind from individuals, social service organizations, and from the MP's of the area. Cash donations could be made to the government agent, Trincomalee. A special unit has been opened at the GA's [government agent's] office in Trincomalee for this purpose.

Security Forces Raid Terrorist Hideout; 18 Killed

BK151336 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Text] The security forces raided a terrorist hideout of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam [LTTE] this afternoon at a place called [name indistinct] in Mannar. Eighteen terrorists were killed and 20 injured in this raid. Security forces recovered (?25) rifles, a large quantity of other arms, over 10,000 rounds of ammunition, 25 RPG rockets, and also a large quantity of explosives. They also destroyed four vehicles belonging to the terrorists. Almost all the arms and ammunition recovered from this hideout were recently taken by the terrorists from the Mannar police station. According to security forces, this terrorist

group — that is, the LTTE — is the same group which was responsiblefor the Anuradhapura massacre when the terrorists attacked at [word indistinct] Medawachchiya.

AFP Reports Mannar Raid

HK160833 Hong Kong AFP in English 0819 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Excerpts]Colombo, June 16 (AFP) — Security forces have killed 18 members of the Tamil separatist guerrilla group blamed for last month's massacre of 147 civilians at the holy city of Anuradhapura, the National Security Ministry has said.

Security forces raided a guerrilla hideout in Mannar District northwest of here on Friday, killing 18 guerrillas and wounding nearly 20, the ministry announced yesterday.

The ministry said security forces recovered a large amount of arms and ammunition, including 25 rocket-propelled grenades, after the Mannar raid.

It said that the guerrillas killed at Mannar belonged to the Tamil Tiger group, accused of killing 147 civilians, mostly Sinhalese, on May 14 in the northern city of Anuradhapura, home of a Buddhist shrine.

Since then security forces have been hunting the guerrillas, who fled into a nearby wildlife sanctuary after killing a number of game wardens.

The leader of the Tamil Tigers, Velupillai Prabhakaran, has said in India that his group would not observe the current de facto cease-fire agreed to by some guerrilla groups following talks between India and Sri Lanka on finding a political solution to Sri Lanka's communal strife.

Members of Sri Lanka's Hindu Tamil minority community, claiming Tamils are unfairly treated by Sri Lanka's Buddhist Sinhala majority community, are demanding greater autonomy for the north and east of the island.

Militant Tamils are conducting a guerrilla campaign for a separate Tamil state in the north and east.

Meanwhile, officials said here today that Tamil guerrillas had blown up a section of the railway line from here to Jaffna, capital of the northern province.

Newspapers here reported today that Tamil guerrillas were expected to lay down their arms soon.

The newspaper *WEEKEND* quoted National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali as saying that he had reliable information that the guerrillas would lay down their arms and agree to begin negotiations this week.

And the largely state-owned *SUNDAY OBSERVER*, quoting unnamed official sources, said there was speculation in Colombo that the guerrillas would lay down their arms in one week from now.

Meanwhile P.S. Soosaithasan, a former parliamentarian of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), the main Tamil party, has returned from southern India after talks there with TULF leaders about a possible negotiated settlement of Sri Lanka's communal strife, TULF scources said.

Sources said some other TULF former parliamentarians had already returned to Jaffna, where they were trying to revive their recently dormant party.

Forces Kill, Wound 100 Terrorists

BK161315 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Excerpts] The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, today inspected the weapons and documents discovered from a terrorist camp in the Mannar jungle, which had been destroyed by army commando soldiers. Part of these weapons have been brought to Mannar and the balance to Anuradhapura. The consignment of weapons comprised rifles, bombs, and thousands of cartridges.

However, the security forces did not disclose the number of terrorists who had lost their lives in the attack yesterday. But, according to reliable sources, more than 100 terrorists were either killed or injured in the attack.

Athulathmudali Visits Regiment

BK161125 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Text] The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, today toured the north and north-central region to review security arrangements in the area once again. The minister had lengthy discussions with the officers at the security headquarters at Vavuniya. He also exchanged views with some of the terrorists who are in custody at the Vavuniya headquarters.

Later, Mr Athulathmudali visited the headquarters of the north-central regiment where he met the commandos of the army, who carried out the raid on the terrorist hideout in Mannar yesterday. The minister said that it would go down in history that these commandos were responsible for destroying the terrorists who carried out the Anuradhapura massacre. The minister had also inspected the arms and ammunition and literature that had been recovered from the hideout. Among these were copies of letters to Prabakaran saying that the attack on Anuradhapura had been carried out. Several identity cards of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam were also discovered. There were also letters proving that it was this group that had carried out the attacks on the Manner, Nedawachchiya, and Jaffna police stations.

Another discovery that was made at this hideout was the helmets of the 13 soldiers who were killed in a bomb explosion on 21 July 1983.

Athulathmudali Comments on Raid

HK170734 Hong Kong AFP in English 0712 GMT 17 Jun 85

[By Neville de Silva]

[Text] Colombo, June 17 (AFP) — The Sri Lankan Government is hopeful the current lull in militant Tamil separatist attacks might be a sign the major separatist groups are considering a cease-fire, official sources said today.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that a clearer picture of the thinking of militant Tamil groups engaged in a bloody campaign for an independent state in the north and east of the country was likely to emerge in about a week's time.

He cautioned that he was not saying the militants would lay down their arms in the next week.

But he said the lull in separatist attacks appeared to be "gathering strength," indicating that it would lead to positive steps toward negotiations.

The minister said that Saturday's attack on the main railway line leading to the northern capital of Jaffna, damaging 90 feet of rail track and a bridge, seemed an attempt to work off separatist frustrations.

"This damage only hurts the Tamil people in Jaffna. It is they who wanted the train service resumed," Mr. Athulathmudali said.

The minister said the security forces were not supplied by rail and so damage to the rail track did not affect them.

The rail services were resumed only last week, several months after Tamil guerrillas blew up a troop train and severely damaged the track.

The minister, who visited the North Central Province yesterday, also congratulated the commando group which led two attacks on a militant separatist camp in northwestern Mannar District on Friday, killing at least 18 militants and capturing a huge cache of arms and ammunition.

Mr. Athulathmudali told AFP the camp was near the Mannar-Pooneryn road and that the commandos had struck twice in quick succession in the most successful raid against the militants.

Information gathered from captured militants and from documents left behind by those who fled indicated that some of the those killed were involved in the massacre of nearly 150 Sinhala civilians at the sacred city of Anuradhapura last month, he said.

The information indicated that the Liberation Tigers of Tamil EELAM (LTTE), one of the most violent of the several separatist groups, was responsible for the Anuradhapura attack.

Mr. Athulathmudali added that at least six of those who attacked Anuradhapura had died in Friday's attack and the local leader of the LTTE, Victor Oscar, had run away leaving behind several incriminating documents.

Helmets belonging to the 13 soldiers killed in Jaffna in July, 1983, which triggered anti-Tamil violence in which nearly 400 people died, were also found, the minister said.

'Terrorists' Destroy Railroad Track 15 June

BK161100 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Text] The northern terrorists destroyed 90 feet of rail track and a culvert on the northern line between Vavuniya and Puliyankulam at the Omantai last night. A railway linesman discovered the track this morning while checking the rail track. The railway department and security forces are working round the clock to repair the line.

The Yal Devi [train] resumed its northern run last Friday after several weeks. Services were disrupted when a similar explosion damaged the rail line. In January this year the terrorists blew up the Yal Devi killing 28 soldiers.

Delhi Notes Call To Break Ties With Israel

BK140418 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 Jun 85

[Text] In Sri Lanka, three political parties have asked the government to snap its political, diplomatic and military links with Israel to facilitate a political solution to the island's ethnic problem. In a statement, the Communist Party, the Lanka Samaja Party, and the Sri Lanka Mahajana Paksha also called for the reversal of the policies which contradict Sri Lanka's provision of nonalignment and goes against the recognition of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

Meanwhile, the security minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, flew to Trincomalee District where thousands of people were forced to flee their homes. According to official sources, Mr Athulathmudali finalized new military strategy with the northeast district where militants killed 20 persons, including five security men in the past 2 days.

'Source' Says Airports Closed to Hijacked Plane

LD150518 Tehran IRNA in English 0517 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 15, IRNA — In a preventive measure, all airports in Iran have been closed to the hijacked American jetliner, a source at Iran's civil aviation organisation said here Saturday morning. In a contact with IRNA, the source noted that the decision was taken after it was heard that the said plane had left Beirut airport for the Persian Gulf region. He stressed that the hijacked plane would not be absolutely permitted to land at any Iranian airport.

IRNA Reports West's Concern

LD151655 Tehran IRNA in English 1648 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Text] Beirut, June 15, IRNA — Reports in Beirut speculate that 13 "Israeli" military personnel and 25 U.S. Marines are in the hijacked Trans World Airlines jet. The reports said a number of the men are officers or commanders, and that the West was increasingly worried about the well-being of their subjects.

Canadians working in Beirut have left the country in cars and its embassy has been reportedly closed. The reports said that other countries will possibly close down their embassies.

Tehran Denies Involvement

GF160448 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Text] According to a report by the Central News Unit, following the hijacking of an American airliner in Athens, again some American and West European mass media have attributed this act to the Islamic Republic of Iran quoting U.S. officials and semiofficials and again repeating their threats about attacks against certain parts of Iran. The Foreign Ministry spokesman has made the following announcement in this respect:

Irrespective of the efforts of the world propaganda network of the Zionists concerning this or similar acts being the work of the Islamic Republic of Iran, thus preparing the ground for the United States to carry out its threats or to create turmoil in the region, the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly denies any hand in such events and announces that the repeated U.S. propaganda uproar is in fact a reaction to the extensive demonstrations of the Muslim nation of Iran and other Muslims of the world for the continuation of battle until final victory against the two similar regimes of Iraq and Israel. The Islamic Republic of Iran will respond to the aggressions of the enemy in battle as it has done on the battlefronts with the regime of Saddam, and does not need other methods.

Velayati Friday Sermon on Palestine, War With Iraq

LD141255 Tehran IRNA in English 1230 GMT 14 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA — Iranian Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati said from the time the Islamic Revolution became victorious in Iran, the idea of fighting the illegitimate and usurper regime that has been established in the Holy Land of Palestine was shaped in the Islamic Republic.

Speaking at Friday prayers' ceremony in Tehran, Dr. Velayati dismissed conciliatory approaches for the liberation of Jerusalem and said what has been taken away by force should be taken back by force "and if we don't rely on God and our own strength, the Holy Land of Palestine will never be liberated."

Referring to the history of Palestine, the foreign minister pointed to the massacre of the Jews by the Christian crusaders as well as by Hitler during the Second World War and said the Muslims had been chosen to be the scapegoat for the horrible crime committed by the Christians. "Never before in history could one see such a major deception through which in the name of defending justice, justice was trampeled upon."

Velayati said permissive liberals and Communists were the two groups who were actively involved in shaping a bastard offspring in the form of Israel. "The Communists and the capitalists collaborated extensively together at the United Nations for dividing Palestine," he added.

Pointing to the fall of monarchy in Iran, he said soon the Baghdad regime will follow suit and emphasised that the Holy Land of Palestine will be liberated from the hands of "the heirs to Richard the so-called Lionheart." He then referred to the helplessness of the Zionists in dealing with the Muslim Lebanese combatants and said this had shown that a people with empty hands but armed with their faith could force this regime to flee.

He said the recent clashes in Beirut were the worst form of plots that are being hatched in the region and added that these clashes were condemned and the Islamic Republic of Iran does not condone them in any manner.

On the question of the Iraqi-imposed war, Dr. Velayati said Iran shall continue its efforts until final victory. "The enthusiastic response by the people to the international Jerusalem Day as well as their massive participation in demonstrations in support of war until final victory indicate that in the Islamic Republic, the war with Iraq and the liberation of Palestine are entwined, and the road to Jerusalem passes through Karbala," he said.

Majlis Speaker's Friday Sermon on Cease-Fire, Iraq

LD141552 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jun 85

[Excerpts] During today's Friday prayers sermons in Tehran, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani analyzed in detail the issues related to the struggle for liberation of Jerusalem and the imposed war.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani referred to the fact that global arrogance views the armed struggle of the Muslim people of Palestine as acts of terrorism, and said: The people of Palestine should not be afraid of such accusations, because from the view point of the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, and France — who are the most notorious terrorists themselves — the Iraqi regime is not a terrorist regime,

despite the fact that it drops bombs on civilian people in the middle of the night. But a self-sacrificing Muslim who packs a truck with explosives to blow up their den of corruption in Lebanon is classed as a terrorist.

Afterward, the imam's representative at the Supreme Defense Council discussed issues related to the imposed war and said: From the start, when the Islamic Republic of Iran chose the life-giving ideology of Islam as a way of life for salvation of humanity in Iran and the world, global arrogance decided to fight against this republic and hatched many conspiracies against the Islamic Republic of Iran, particularly the imposed war.

The imam's representative at the Supreme Defense Council went on: The proposal of an untimely cease-fire by global arrogance was also a conspiracy they hatched in order to break the people's resistance morale and spirituality. No doubt major powers of the world are against any understanding between us and the nation of Iraq. It will be in their interest to make us fight against everybody. All their efforts are concentrated on preventing a victory for Islam in this fight. The cease-fire they desire is the same as the cease-fire imposed on the nation of Palestine in the course of the Israeli war against the Muslim nation of Palestine. By suggesting such a cease-fire, on the one hand they intend to arm Iraq, and on the other they want to halt our people's enthusiasm and excitement. Then, at an appropriate moment they will find another excuse to launch a fresh attack against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Referring to the overall support of global arrogance for the Iraqi Zionist regime, the speaker of the Islamic Majlis condemned false reports filed by correspondents of the imperialist news media on Iran's situation and said such reports are responsible for encouraging Iraq to implement its policies.

Addressing Saddam's supporters, he asked them to learn a lesson from today's unprecedented gathering of so many people in Tehran and all other towns and cities, particularly Dezful, Khorramabad, Nahavand, Andimeshk, and Bakhtaran, who took part at the marches despite being targets of the Zionist regime's bombs and missiles. He asked Saddam's supporters to learn a lesson from today's marches and stop giving more arms to a drunken savage.

While paying tribute to the people of the Islamic homeland for their overall resistance and determination to continue their steadfasteness until final victory against the Iraqi Zionist regime, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: If global arrogance were to decide to dispatch all its planes to bomb these people, they would make shelters under the ground and would continue fighting against arrogance on the ground.

IRNA Report

LD141559 Tehran IRNA in English 1529 GMT 14 Jun 85

["Hashemi-Rafsanjani: Washington, Moscow Against an Emergent Islam" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA — In his sermon to a multitudinous assembly of Tehranis gathering in and around Tehran University at the Friday mass prayers and on the occasion of the International Jerusalem Day, Majlis speaker and interim leader of the Friday mass prayers Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that elements advocating a cease-fire between Iran and Iraq are not in fact concerned about an understanding between the two countries but rather seek to give Baghdad a respite for bolstering its military capacity in preparation for another invasion of Iran. He said the supercilious world powers have provided the Baghdad regime with high-capacity fighter bombers to drop bombs over residential quarters in Iran with the idea of frustrating Iran's Muslim people so that they may eventually succumb to pressure from the world powers and agree to a peace formula devised by the big powers.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that neither Washington nor Moscow would welcome an emergent Islam fighting with either capitalism or communism because both the superpowers realize that once Islam is permitted to stand against either of the two schools it will eventually pose a threat to both of them. He said also that Iran's Muslim people, even those who might be considered as being indifferent to the Islamic revolution, would not hesitate to take arms and fight once if they should happen to note that the Islamic revolution is in danger.

Speakeing on the topic of the occupied Palestine and the Palestinians, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the Palestinians should have already realized that as the history of Palestine has evidenced the mediation of this or that country in relation with the issue of Palestine and conservative approaches to the issue of occupied Palestine have never brought them one step to closer their goals. He expressed hope that the people advocating mild approaches to the issue or those banking on the mediation of foreign powers for the eventual solution of the issue realize they are disillusioned and that they would turn to the fold of the larger Palestine nation which insists on a direct struggle with the Zionist regime.

Addressing himself to the foreign reporters in Tehran and at Tehran University during the ritual, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that for a long time now the enemies of the Islamic revolution have provided the Baghdad regime with the wrong information and misleading interpretation of the situation in Iran which prompted Saddam Husayn to launch out an unsuccessful invasion of Iran and that as such, the elements who have misinformed Saddam Husayn about the status of the revolution and that of the Islamic Government are responsible for the shedding of the blood of thousands of people since the outbreak of the war. Hashemi-Rafsanjani also said that he believes that once exploited in the proper manner, the potential capacity of the multitudes of Iran's Muslim people is sufficient enough for setting an entire world in its right form, and for ridding the Middle East from the hands of its enemies.

Elsewhere during the Friday mass prayers on the Jerusalem Day, former leader of the Friday mass prayers at the Al-Aqsa Mosque of Jerusalem, Sheykh Assad Bayuz al-Tamimi, said that in order to ennervate the Islamic revolution the colonialist world powers and the supercilious world governments manipulated the Baghdad regime for launching an attack against the Islamic revolution in its home-land, but that far from defeating the Islamic revolution, the Baghdad government is now finding itself entangled in a snare with little chances of an eventual escape from it. He

also called on the leader of the Islamic revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni to do something for saving the Palestinian Muslims who are killed in their camps in Beirut.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Reelected Majlis Speaker

LD161237 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Excerpt] In the open session of the Majlis this morning the deputies elected the Secretariat of the Majlis for the second year of the present convocation. According to our correspondent these were the results of the elections:

Hashemi-Rafsanjani was reelected Majlis speaker with 200 votes; Muhammad Yazdi and Mahdi Karrubi as deputy speakers with 153 and 143 votes, respectively. Also, Seyyedzadeh, Parhizkar, and Zavareh'i were elected as supply officers, and Hoseyni-Barama'i, Sobhanollahi, Bayat, Dehqan, Movahedi-Sovoji, and Shushtari as clerks for the Majlis Secretariat.

Report on Speaker's Address at Majlis Open Session

[*Editorial Report*] Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 1030 GMT on 16 June carries a 7-minute announcer-read version of the speech by Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani at today's open session of the Majlis.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani begins his speech by praising the overwhelming support given to the march and demonstrations marking Jerusalem Day, especially in view of the threats made by the Iraqi regime on previous days. Speaking about the demonstrations he says: "May God grant success to those filming the ceremony who made a good job of showing the scene by providing a panoramic view and setting the scene in perspective. These proud moments will be preserved in the history of this nation and will convince the enemies of the revolution once and for all. Colonialism of the East and the West, reactionaries, Israel, Zionism, and internal counterrevolution both pro-East and pro-West, hypocrites, Marxists, monarchists, and pretentious liberals were all disgraced to such an extent that all their well-worked-out plans have been foiled in the past few days. This nations should be congratulated."

He again thanks the media for their coverage and, addressing the enemies of the Islamic Republic, he says: "If the enemies of Islam have an ounce of intelligence among them they should realize that, as that Western reporter said, it is stupid to think that they can deal blows to this nation. This nation has shown that it thrives and becomes stronger with every blow. Therefore, they should forget about blows and should find another way to come to terms with the emotions, kindness, and and thoughts of this attractive, interesting, justice-seeking, and faithful people. They should allow this nation to follow its path. I thank the nation and pray for our good people."

In conclusion, the speaker of the Islamic Majlis says: "Majlis deputies, reporting about their constituencies, said that in their contacts with constituents they were told that the Jerusalem Day marches were unprecedented everywhere and that they did not expect such attendance from the people under the present circumstances." Hashemi-Rafsanjani ends his speech with prayers for the people and for their success.

Rallies Prove Support for War

LD161703 Tehran IRNA in English 1653 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran June 16, IRNA — The Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here Sunday [16 June] that the massive rallies in the city streets in Tehran and elsewhere throughout the country on the international Jerusalem Day (June 14th) when Iran's Muslim people also voiced their support for a continued war with the Baghdad regime had served a good lesson to the enemies of the Islamic revolution and blunted their hopes for frustrating the Iranian people and dampening their zest for the Islamic revolution.

The Hojjat ol-Eslam who was talking in an open session of the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Majlis) here Sunday said that the Friday rallies throughout Iran had disreputed the enemies of the Islamic government, among them the extreme right and the extreme left counter-revolutionaries in Iran, the hypocrites (members and supporters of the outlawed Mujahedin Khalq Organization — MKO), the monarchists, the die-hard conservatives, the supercilious powers of the Eastern and Western blocs and Zionists who had long since flattered themselves that the masses in Iran did not fully support the Islamic revolution and the war with the Baghdad government.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that by their taking to the city streets on Friday June 14th, the Iranian people had demonstrated to the world that the more conspiracies against them, the firmer they become in their devotion to the ideals of the Islamic revolution and in their support for the policies of the Islamic government. He reminded the Majlis and the people that the Friday demonstrations had been specially important because the rallies had immediately foilowed widespread intimidate raids against Iranian cities by the Baghdad regime.

Iran's Majlis speaker said the Jerusalem rallies had been a turning point in the history of Iran and in the contemporary history of the world. He added that the Jerusalem rallies had proved to the enemies of the Islamic Republic that they could not at any future time bully Iran's Muslim people or intimidate them by such measures as they had adopted since the culmination of the Islamic revolution and that they had to explore totally different alternatives in their dealing with Iran's Muslim people.

Majlis Speaker Claims Missle-Producing Capability

LD161619 Tehran IRNA in English 1558 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 16, IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran now has the necessary technology for building ground-to-ground missiles, Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Iranian Parliament (Majlis) said in an interview with Japan's N.H.K. Television network. The interview was granted in view of Mr. Rafsanjani's forthcoming visit to Japan.

"The missiles (Iran has fired upon Baghdad) are completely Iranian-made and we now have solved such problems like the control systems, highly pressurized chambers and making the special alloys for the missiles," he said. Rafsanjani added that a great deal had been learned by Iranian missile experts through repairing the advanced missiles Iran already possessed. "In future you will see new (Iranian-made) missiles and we shall not rely on one type of missiles either." "We can now declare that, as a missile power, and excluding the superpowers, Iran in the region is a second or third rate missile power, and of course, the world does not have to fear our missile strength since if we use missiles, it will be as deterent and defensive measures," he added.

The Majlis speaker, asked to comment on Iraqi aerial attacks against the Iranian oil terminal on Khark Island, said Iraqi raids against Khark have not been effective at all "since we have a powerful missile battery stationed there and also our F-14 jets are constantly flying over Khark terminal to repel any intruding Iraqi jets." "It is the same with the (Iran-Japan) petrochemical complex at Bandar Khomeyni where our defense is very effective against air raids," Rafsanjani said.

On Iran's conditions for accepting an end to the 57-month-old Iraqi-imposed war, Mr. Rafsanjani said Iran's conditions had not changed. "We have not departed from our previously-stated conditions which are fair and well within international standards. There is no one who does not know that it was Saddam (Husayn) who initiated the war by mounting aggression against Iran and thus broke international laws. We want the aggressor to be tried by a court of law and even if a weak court of law tries Saddam, he will be condemned on ethical and humaniterian grounds and told to pay Iran war damages. Naturally, such a man (as Saddam Husayn) who is responsible for killing and maiming so many people and causing so much damage to international relations could not be entitled to rule over a nation," the Majlis speaker who is also Imam Khomeyni's representative at the Supreme Defense Council said.

On Iran's relations with the Soviet Union, Mr. Rafsanjani said Iran did not want to have strained relations with the Soviet Union. "We do not seek to have our ties with the Soviet Union strained, but there are two or three issues that have created problems between our two countries. One is the question of Afghanistan which we regard as a serious one believing that the presence of Soviet forces there is not right. Then there is the question of the Soviet Union supporting Iraq and giving it advanced MIG-25 jets and missiles. These are the obstacles in our relations with Moscow," He said.

On recent clashes in Beirut between the Shi'ite Amal militia and the Palestinians, Mr. Rafsanjani said Iran regarded the killing of Palestinians a crime and that Iran strongly condemns the recent events at Palestinian camps in Beirut. Asked if Iran supported the Amal movement in Lebanon, the Majlis speaker said: "We have never supported Amal as an organization, but there is a faction of Amal which goes by the name of the Islamic Amal and which is among supporters of the Islamic Republic of Iran." he added.

On the joint Iran-Japan petrochemical venture, Mr. Rafsanjani said the Iranian Majlis had voted against new proposals for this petrochemical project. "We believe that this project should proceed as stipulated in the original contract, and I think if Japan is mindful of its long-term interests, it would agree to this and carry out its undertakings."

On the future of ties between Iran and Japan, the Majlis speaker said Iran did not think the volume of industrial, economic and cultural exchanges between the two countries were at their optimum level. "We think these exchanges could expand and I hope that my visit to Japan will help strengthen overall relations between the two countries.

'Millions' Mark Jerusalem Day at Rallies

LD141300 Tehran IRNA in English 1013 GMT 14 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran June 14 IRNA — In a show of power and in massive nation-wide rallies today, millions of fasting Iranian Muslims honored the International Day of Qods [Jerusalem] and declared their firm support for the holy defence of the Islamic combatants of Iran versus Iraqi aggression. They further vowed allegiance with Imam Khomeyni and the oppressed masses in the world, particularly the tyrannised nation of Palestine.

The Iranian people in their rallies reiterated the necessity of armed struggle against the Zionist regime until its annihilation, and declared that this would be possible through the destruction of the Ba'th Party in Iraq.

The shouts of "War, war, till victory" by multitudes of people with clenched fists, overshadowed the sounds of the bomb and missile explosions in a number of Iranian cities. The Iranian nation once again declared that it would not give in to compromise and imposed peace and that these cowardly attacks would only add to its strong determination in its legitimate fight against the Iraqi aggressors.

Today's demonstrations in the capital were reminiscent of the millions strong rallies in the early days of the revolution five years ago. The demonstrators shouted "Allaho Akbar, Khomeyni Rahbar" (God is great, Khomeyni is the leader), "War, war, till victory", "Death to the U.S.", and "Death to Israel."

From the early hours of Friday, multitudes of people started marching toward the Tehran University through pre-planned routes and before long, all the main streets in central Tehran leading to the university were packed with marchers.

Experts watching the marchers from helicopters indicated that at least 35 kilometers of Tehran's main streets and avenues were packed with people and conservative estimates put the number of marchers at about five million.

The enthusiastic response of the people to calls for these demonstrations was specially significant in the face of threats by Baghdad that it will mount aerial attacks against Tehran Friday. When Iraqi planes twice tried to penetrate Tehran's airspace, the clatter of anti-aircraft batteries was drowned in the shouts of millions of people in Tehran chanting "War, war till victory".

Some marchers were talking about the fact that Radio Israel has said that in the Middle East it is only the Islamic Iran that pursues a policy of fighting Israel and has organized the international Qods Day. To them, this indicated the connection between the Zionist Israel regime and the Baghdad Ba'thist regime which on this day which had been earmarked for commemorating the plight of the Palestinian people, carried out its wanton and barbaric aerial and missile attacks against residential sectors of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Marchers To Continue 'Holy Defense'

LD141354 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jun 85

[Text] At the end of today's marches in Tehran a 14-point resolution was read out in which, while announcing everlasting obedience to the leader of the Islamic Revolution, support for the guidelines given by Ayatollah Montazeri, and support for the committed and struggling clergy, stressed that resistance will be continued until the final victory over the enemy. The Muslim nation of Iran considers this unequal war imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran to be one between infidelity and Islam and, steadfast, it will continue its holy defense against the aggressive Iraqi regime until final victory and the fall of the rulers of Baghdad. In spite of all conspiracies hatched by the enemy, the Muslim nation of Iran will never agree to degradation and compromise.

In this resolution, while announcing support and all-round backing of the Muslim people of Iran for the combatants on the battlefront who guard the dear Islam with their courage, and while expressing support for the serving officials, it is stressed that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran should be decisive in helping the combatants of Islam more than before. In the resolution passed by the marchers, the retaliatory action of the combatants of Israel in the face of aggression by the Baghdad regime against the residential areas of our country is confirmed and any compromsie with Saddam's regime is condemned.

In their resolution, the marchers warn the governments of the region and powers backing Saddam which have by now realized his nature, including France and the USSR, to stop their support for the Aflaqi regime of Saddam and not to force the oppressed nations of the world to rise against their governments.

The marchers consider the continuation of the Zionist regime of Baghdad as the cause of hostility and degradation in the world of Islam and, addressing all the people oppressed by that regime, the marchers emphasize that they should raise and put an end to the crime-ridden Iraqi regime.

In another part of this resolution, the continuation of the martyr-nurturing people of Iran's fight against the Arch-Satan United States and exposing its plots, and support for Muslim nations — especially Afghanistan, Lebanon, and Palestine are emphasized. The resolution says in part:

The liberation of the noble Jerusalem from the claws of Zionism is one of the major goals of the Islamic Revolution of Iran. While announcing our support for the Muslim people of Lebanon and Palestine, we condemn acts of compromise and value the holy move of the oppressed people of Lebanon in their fight against the regime occupying Jerusalem.

Tehran Commentary

GF150904 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Commentary by the Research Group of the Central News Unit: "The Great Lesson!"]

[Excerpts] Yesterday, on the occasion of International Jerusalem Day, the heroic and resistant Iranian nation taught world oppression and imperialism a great lesson through its unanimous enthusiasm and unity. Yesterday, on the 24th day of Ramadan, Tehran and the other Iranian cities, under heavy air and missile attacks by the Zionist Iraqi regime, once again witnessed marches and demonstrations unparalleled and unsurpassed since the Islamic Revolution.

Yesterday's performance by the people of Iran, especially in Tehran was a valuable lesson for the oppressive powers, the Western countries, and the countries of the region. They should realize that all the reports and news that had previously been sent by their agents and correspondents affiliated to Zionism and imperialism have been mere fabrications and lack truth. The magnificent epic of yesterday should be an important test for them and they should acknowledge that this nation has not turned back on its revolution. Even after 7 years of resistance and enduring of conspiracies it is just as potent and firm in its support of its ideals and the objectives of the revolution. If, due to exaggerated reports or the weakness of their powers of comprehension they have not been able to assess in detail the determination and aspirations of this nation or they were vacillating in their decisions, they should now realize that the continuation of their present policy will not be to their advantage and the more pressure they exert on this country, the stronger will its determination become. There will not be the slightest wavering in the people's resolve. Thus, they have no recourse but to revise their stance vis-a-vis the great nation of Iran.

A point worth noting and which has astonished political observers is the extensive scale of the demonstrations after 7 years of the Islamic revolution. Western observers — who have no perception or comprehension of the immense love and fervor of the Islamic nation for Islam — are of the opinion that, after 7 years of enduring hardships and tribulations as well as miscellaneous conspiracies by foreign powers and after 5 years of all-out war and concomitant economic and social problems, the Iranian nation does not have the enthusiasm which marked the early days of the revolution and has tired of the continuation of support for the revolution and its ideals. This topic has consistently been conspicuously and widely flaunted by the Zionist media.

Yesterday's action by the people of Tehran and all the Iranian cities belied all their analyses, especially since yesterday's Tehran march can be said to be the most unique march since the victory of the Islamic revolution as regards its scale and number of participants. If we consider other factors such as the imminent aerial attacks by the enemy on the marchers, we can comprehend

better the importance and grandeur of this march under such circumstances.

Yesterday, the resistant people of Tehran and all parts of Iran taught oppression and its agents an unforgettable lesson. The nation showed that it will not settle for anything short of the toppling of the Ba'thist Baghdad regime and no power can encroach upon the sovereignty and independence of this country. Let yesterday's lesson be heard by those who ought to hear it and teach them some common sense.

Reportage, Comment on Iraqi Attacks, Retaliation

IRNA Updates Missile Casualties

LD141247 Tehran IRNA in English 1230 GMT 14 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA — At least twelve people were martyred and another ninety wounded when an Iraqi long-range ground-to-ground missile hit the Iranian city of Nahavand at 0805 local time Friday (0435 GMT). The missile hit a residential section of the city, completely destroying one residential unit and damaging more than 15 other units. Windows were broken within a several hundred meter radius of the place the missile hit.

The latest casualty figures from other Iranian cities hit by Iraqi missiles Friday morning are as follows:

Bakhtaran: Seven martyred, 40 wounded.
Eslamabad: Two martyred, 16 wounded.
Borujerd: 19 martyred and many wounded.

Rescue workers are still busy clearing the debris and trying to save survivors.

Joint Staff Communique No 2134

LD141657 Tehran IRNA in English 1649 GMT 14 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA — Iranian forces Thursday night penetrated Iraqi positions and after crossing a minefield surprised the enemy and killed or wounded more than 100 Iraqi troops, Communique No 2134 issued Friday by the Joint Staff Command of the Iranian Armed Forces said. The communique added that in the same operation, one ammunition depot, two military vehicles, eight group bunkers and three observation posts were destroyed.

In retaliation for Iraqi attacks against Iranian cities, over the past 24 hours, military and economic targets in the Iraqi cities of Basra, Abu al-Khasib, Al-Zubayr, Khanaqin, Naft Khanih, Badrah, Mandali, Zurbatiyah, Warmahraz, Dhu Shaykh, Sayid Sadiq, Kharmal, Halabshah, and Shanadari as well as military townships of Shu'artah and Haniul were hit by Iranian artillery fire inflicting considerable damages and casualties on the enemy, the communique said.

Over the past 24 hours, exchange of fire continued in Sardasht and Haj 'Umran fronts and the enemy suffered some damages and casualties. Exchange of fire continued in other parts of the western front and it was reported to be heavier in Naft-e Shah region.

At 0300 hours local time Thursday, an enemy patrol unit tried to penetrate Iranian positions but was repelled by the Islamic fighters. The enemy's road construction activities in Qasr Shirin was also checked.

In the southern fronts, exchange of fire continued and it was reported to be heaviest in Kushk, Nahr-Anbar and Majnun Islands fronts. At the same front, the Gendarmeri units defended the Arvand River front against the Iraqis and inflicted some damages and casualties on them through their concentrated fire.

The communique added that on Thursday, the cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr in Khuzestan Province were under the fire of Iraqi guns as a result of which one civilian was killed, six wounded and a number of houses damaged. In Khorramshahr two fires resulted from Iraqi shelling.

The staff communique went on to add that at 0800 local time Friday (0430 GMT), the Iranian cities of Bakhtaran, Masjid Suleiman, Dezful, Andimeshk, Islamabad, Khorramabad, Boroujerd, Nahavand and Ramhormuz were missile attacked by Iraq as a result of which a number of Iranian civilians were either killed or wounded and a number of houses were damaged. The airspace of Tehran was violated by intruding Iraqi planes twice Friday morning at 0730 and 1110 local time, but Iranian jets succeeded in forcing the intruding planes to flee.

The communique added that also on Friday, Iraqi planes had to flee from the airspace of Ghazvin, Kashan, Esfahan, and Marivan in the face of intense antiaircraft fire as well as the defensive moves of Iranian Air Force planes.

The communique concluded by saying that at 0900 Thursday (0530 GMT), the city of Karand was bombarded by Iraqi planes resulting in two civilians martyred and 16 others wounded while ten houses and seven shops were also damaged.

Iraq Plan To Halt Bombing Noted

LD141723 Tehran IRNA in English 1712 GMT 14 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA — Following Friday's demonstrations by millions of Iranians on the occasion of the International Qods Day and the Iraqi missile and aerial attacks against fasting Muslim Iranians who were out demonstrating for the Palestinian cause which left great impressions on the world public opinion, the Iraqi regime, in a desperate move designed to hide its Zionist nature, announced Friday that it is going to stop the bombardment of Iranian residential regions for two weeks starting at 0730 local time Saturday. The Iraqi regime hopes that by this move, it will be able to save face vis-a-vis its opposition to any move that opposes the Zionist regime as well as gaining some credence for the Iranian counterrevolutionaries who are in league with Saddam Husayn of Iraq.

Meanwhile, Radio Israel, in its Persian language broadcast on Friday welcomed the Iraqi announcement but failed to say

anything about the massive demonstrations that took place in Islamic Iran Friday.

Results of Iraq Attacks

LD142217 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2105 GMT 14 Jun 85

[Excerpts] Once again the aggressive Iraqi regime has proved its support for the regime occupying Jerusalem by launching missile and air raids on Iranian cities on International Jerusalem Day. IRNA and the Central News Unit report that the Iraqi Zionist regime in support of the regime occupying Jerusalem attacked with long-range missiles Masjed-e Soleyman, Dezful, Andimeshk and Ramhormuz when the inhabitants of these towns were staging unprecedented demonstrations on Jerusalem Day in order to show their support for the Islamic combatants until final victory.

As a result of the enemy's missile attacks a total of 48 were martyred and approximately 200 injured in Dezful, Andimeshk, Ramhormuz and Masjed-e Soleyman. Moreover, a number of residential buildings and stores were also damaged.

This morning the aggressive Iraqi regime attacked Nahavand with missiles. As a result 12 fasting and faithful inhabitants were martyred and 90 were injured.

At 0810 today on the eve of marking Jerusalem Day Khorramabad and Borujerd were attacked by Iraqi surface-to-surface missiles, resulting in the martyrdom of 22 compatriots and injury to approximately 260 others. Several houses were also damaged.

At 0805 today the populated areas of Bakhtaran were hit by one surface-to-surface missile by the Iraqi Zionist regime. This resulted in the martyrdom of 7 of our compatriots and injury to 40 others; moreover, dozens of houses were totally demolished. The same report says that at 0805 today the populated areas of (Eslamabad-e Gharb) were hit by an Iraqi missile, resulting in the martyrdom of 3 and injuty to 20 others. A number of the town's residential quarters were also destroyed.

Iraqi Capital Hit by Missile

LD150207 Tehran IRNA in English 0203 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 15, IRNA — An Iranian long-range ground-to-ground missile hit Baghdad at 05:00 local time (0130 GMT). The missile attack on the Iraqi capital was in retaliation for Iraqi aerial and missile attacks on a number of Iranian cities on Friday.

Communique Issued

GF150532 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 15 Jun 85

["Text" of communique issued by the War Information Headquarters]

[Text] IRNA — In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. O Muslim free-thinkers of the world! The Zionist Iraqi regime has in practice revealed its affiliation with despotic Israel. As it had announced earlier that it would prevent the anti-Israeli marches on International Jerusalem Day, when the sacrificing Muslim Iranian nation was shouting "Death to the United States!" and "Death to Israel!" it attacked these people with bombs and missiles, and a group of those who refused to compromise with the despotic Israel were martyred.

This crime is without doubt a grave catastrophe in the history of the struggle of the Muslim nations of the area against the aggressor Jerusalem regime and the bond of the pure blood of the Iranian Muslims with the blood of the Lebanese and Palestinian Muslims will nourish a strong tree, the fruit of which will be victory for the Islamic revolution of Iran and the imminent downfall of the Zionist Iraqi regime and the usurpist regime of Palestine.

O Muslim revolutionary people of Iran! This morning, in order to avenge the crimes of the disgraceful fascist Iraqi regime, the heart of Baghdad was the target of the missile unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps so that the enemy may know that the mischief-mongering and attacks of the regime will not go unanswered. The Islamic Republic of Iran is completely ready to deal a shattering blow to this antihuman regime and its hirelings whenever the Baghdad rulers attack the Muslim revolutionary people of Iran, who are selflessly steadfast in the path of fighting off aggression against their Islamic country and who aspire to the ideal of liberation of Jerusalem — an answer that will truly shake the tottering foundations of this regime.

O Muslim people of Iraq! As we have announced many times, the relatiatory attacks by the Islamic Republic of Iran on cities is in continuation of our retaliation policy warning the Iraq regime against continuing its playing with fire over the skies of our cities. First of all, the Zionist regime of Iraq initiates the attacks every time and the Islamic Republic of Iran only shows an appropriate reaction. Hence, responsibility for the destruction of Iranian and Iraqi cities lay with this regime. This should certainly answer your question, O Muslims of Iraq: On the basis of what logic is this destruction and these casualties inflicted on you? What benefit has it gained from this? O Muslim people of Iraq! Rise up so that the capable Islamic combatants will be determined more than ever to continue their struggle until the self-sold Iraqi regime, which is the source of tension and discord in the region, is toppled and we will eventually hasten to Jerusalem hand in hand with our Iraqi brothers. The path to the liberation of Jerusalem is through Karbala.

Baghdad Power Loss Reported

LD151209 Tehran IRNA in English 1105 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Text] Islamabad, June 13, IRNA — The Iranian missile which hit Baghdad Saturday morning cut the electricity in several parts of the Iraqi capital for six hours, an Arab diplomat told IRNA here. The diplomat, who prefered to remain unknown, said that he acquired the information from sources of his country's embassy in Baghdad. He quoted the sources as saying that after the missile hit the city, the area was covered with a thick black cloud and the electricity was cut in several places. But, he said,

there are still no reliable reports indicating that the power cut was due to the missile attack.

He noted that the sources believe there was a strong possibility that the missile hit an area in Al-Rashid District but added that due to tight security measures, at present it was not possible to specify the point hit by the missile.

Western news agencies which dispatched their vague reports five hours after the explosion in Baghdad, have not mentioned the power cut in their reports.

170 Killed in Attack

GF160436 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Excerpt] The last missile fired by the warriors of Islam against Baghdad hit the Salahiyah District near the Iraqi radio and television center. It killed or wounded 170 individuals. According to an IRNA report, quoting well-informed sources inside Iraq, as a result of the explosion of the missile fired by the forces of Islam, seven buildings in this district were destroyed and the hotel (?Meridian), which is patronized by foreigners, was damaged.

Hawr al-Hawizah Area 'Liberated'

LD151121 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1033 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Text] Simultaneous with International Jerusalem Day and in reply to crimes of the Iraqi Zionist regime, the combatants of Islam, in the course of a limited operation, liberated 100 square kilometers of the Hawr al-Hawizah region. According to a Central News Unit report, quoting a communique of the Khatam ol-Anbiya Headquarters, the joint operational center of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, in the course of these operations, held under the codename "Jerusalem" in Hawr al-Hawizah region, the warriors of Islam succeeded in crossing barbed wire, and countless other enemy traps and barriers and in liberating an area of over 100 square kilometers in the region.

While killing and wounding hundreds of the enemy troops and capturing dozens more, the combatants of Islam succeeded in taking control of the Abu Laylah and Al-Maydan posts, near the villages of Abu Laylah, Balaliyah and Abu Dhakar, and also the regions of Al-Hisam and Al-Zurriyah, in the vicinity of the Basra-Baghdad highway. The combatants of Islam also succeeded in taking up positions in a place 6 kilometers from the important and strategic basra-baghdad highway. Also during these operations, the forces of Islam set ablaze and destroyed considerable quantities of the enemy's arms and military equipment, while capturing some intact. The warriors of Islam, by crushing the enemy's last-ditch resistance, are still defending their newly captured positions.

Iraqi Counteroffensives Checked

LD151702 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Text] Khatam ol-Anbiya base, the headquarters for the joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, in its second communique about the successful Jerusalem operations which were carried out north of Hur al-'Azim and east of Tigris inside Iraqi territory last night, announced:

The combatants of Islam in addition to liberating 100 sq km of the Hur al-Hawizah including the villages and garrisons mentioned in the previous communique for the information of the Muslim and martyr nurturing ummah, took control of several big and important waterways in the region including Besharat waterway. The forces of Islam, especially the popular forces dispatched from Mazandaran, have foiled several counteroffensives launched by the enemy with unrivaled courage and bravery. Several hundreds of enemy soldiers were killed or wounded with each foiled counteroffensive. A considerable amount of weapons and equipment belonging to the Zionist regime ruling over Iraq was set on fire and destroyed by the combatants of Islam and a large number of military equipment has been captured unharmed by the forces of Islam.

At present, the combatants of Islam have taken position six kilometers from the important Basra-Baghdad road, and while keeping this road under their fire, they are defending their newly captured positions.

Joint Staff Communique No 2135

LD151639 Tehran IRNA in English 1626 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 15, IRNA — A military communique published Saturday said that sporadic artillery fire had been exchanged between Iran's Muslim combatants and the Iraqi troops in many of the battlefronts throughout Friday.

The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran said in its Communique No 2135 that artillery fire had been traded between the Iranian and the Iraqi troops in and near the Nuri and Balakht and Ashkan military bases in Sar Dasht, Haj 'Umran and Marivan on Friday. In Mehran, Iranian troops on Friday destroyed 19 large bunkers and observation posts of the Iraqi troops and damaged one enemy howitzer and another mortar launcher killing and wounding 20 Iraqi soldiers.

On Friday a group of enemy patrol units was spotted in Kani-Shaykh and another in Mehran. Both were immediately repelled from the area. In the southern fronts, artillery fire was traded between Iranian and Iraqi forces on Friday with the fire raging heavier in the Majnun Islands, the Khandaq road, Nahr-Anbar, and Al-Mehdi road. On the same day one company of the Iraqi patrol troops tried to infiltrate the Iranian positions in one of the southern fronts but was repelled from the area by Iranian troops after sustaining heavy losses and damages.

As artillery fire was exchanged between the gendarmerie forces of the Islamic Republic and the Iraqi forces across the Arvand

River on Friday, Iranian forces checked enemy engineering operations destroying four large bunkers and five observation posts and killed and wounded many Iraqi soldiers. Artillery fire of the enemy on the cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr on F. ..ay damaged several houses.

Joint Staff Communique No 2136

LD161647 Tehran IRNA in English 1631 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 16, IRNA — A military communique issued here Sunday [16 June] said sporadic artillery fire had been traded between Iran's Muslim combatants and the Iraqi soldiers in many of the battlefronts on Saturday, with Iranian soldiers maintaining their superiority over the Iraqi troops killing and wounding about 110 enemy soldiers.

Communique No 2136 released by the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran said ground and artillery fighting raged heavier in and near Sardasht, Haj 'Umran, Marivan, and near Army outposts in Balakht, Bardiyeh-Sepian, (Kafirash), Bardeh Pahn and Dulkhan.

Artillery fire was also exchanged between the Iranian troops and the Iraqi forces in many of the western battlefronts on Saturday raging somewhat heavier in Mehran and Maymak in which Iran's Muslim combatants destroyed four enemy bunkers and observation posts, damaged one enemy vehicle and also killed and wounded five Iraqi soldiers.

At 22.55 hours GMT on Friday one patrol unit of the Iraqi forces tried to infiltrate the positions of the Iranian troops in a western battlefront but was immediately repelled from the area under heavy artillery fire of the Iranian combatants.

Sporadic fighting also continued between the Islamic defenders of Iran and Iraqi troops in many of the southern fronts on Saturday during which Iran's forces inflicted damages and casualties upon the enemy troops.

On Arvand River on Saturday, Iran's gendarmerie troops shelled enemy positions across the river destroying six large bunkers and one observation post and killing at least six Iraqi soldiers.

On Saturday Iran's City of Abadan was hit by the long-range artillery fire of the Iraqi forces, in which several houses were damaged and one location in the city caught fire.

Meanwhile on Saturday night, one enterprising combat unit of Iran's forces infiltrated enemy positions in a north western front blasting one ammunitions depot of the enemy forces and killing and wounding about 100 Iraqi soldiers. The group safely returned to its base immediately after the operation.

Details of Operation Reported

LD161808 Tehran IRNA in English 1740 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 16, IRNA — An Iraqi war plane and a helicopter gunship were shot down by Iranian forces in the area east of the Tigris River Saturday night [15 June], the third communique issued by Khatam ol-Anbiya joint headquarters of the Iranian Armed Forces and the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps issued Sunday said.

The communique, detailing the latest military operation of the Iranian forces code-named Qods which started on Friday night, said an Iraqi counter-attack was beaten back Sunday near the Iraqi post of Al-Zajyah in the Hawr al-Hawizah region in southeastern Iraq. The Qods operation which was mounted Friday on the International Qods Day in retaliation for Iraqi attacks on Iran's residential sectors has already resulted in the liberation of more than one hundred sq kilometers of territory to the north of Hawr al-Hawizah marshlands.

The communique added that in the continuation of the Qods operation, the Iraqi posts of Abu Zakir, Abu Laylah, Al-Maydan and the villages of Abu Laylah and Bardiyah are also under the control of the Iranian forces.

The strategic regions of Al-Hasan and Al-Zujajiyah are also under the heavy fire of the Iranian forces as a result of which, more than 12 roving units of the enemy and a large number of fox-holes inside Hawr al-Hawizah marshlands were also completely destroyed, with all the enemy forces in them either killed or captured, the communique added.

It went on to say that Iranian forces have consolidated their position only six kilometers from the strategic Baghdad-Basrah highway to the north of the marshlands coming under the control of the Iranian forces. The communique said that enemy movements in Al-Kisarah, Al-Hasan and Al-Zubaydah have been checked by the Iranian combatants. The communique added that a number of Iraqi troops encircled by the Iranian forces in this region have given themselves up to the Iranian forces. "Hundreds of enemy troops were killed in this operation the bodies of many of them still visible on the waters to the north of Hawr al-Hawizah. Also tens of enemy troops were captured of whom ninety have been transferred to behind the front lines," the communique concluded.

Islamic Resistance Group Attacks 'Zionist' Camp

LD151624 Tehran IRNA in English 1558 GMT 15 Jun 85

[Text] Beirut, June 14, IRNA — The "Islamic Resistance of Lebanon" said its forces shot four katyusha rockets into a Zionist military camp near the village of "Majdal Muslim" near the border with the Zionist state Friday night, killing and wounding an undetermined number of Zionist troops. The resistance said Zionist helicopters airlifted the dead and the wunded out of the camp as soldiers shot flares in the air to thwart other possible attacks. The "Martyr Yusef Jadraj Group" claimed responsibility for the operation, it said.

Nejat-e Iran Reports on Mashhad Clash

GF141904 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jun 85

[Text] The Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondent in Mashhad reported that yesterday in [words indistinct] street in Mashhad

when fasting people had lined up at the shop of a local baker to buy bread, a patrol car belonging to the local committee stopped at the baker and one committee official, without showing respect to the line, purchased bread from the baker out of turn. While getting into the car, he began to eat the bread. This non-fasting committee official upset the fasting people who were waiting in line. The incident caused an altercation between the people and three Hezbollahis also lined up at the baker's shop. The committee officials who had not left the shop returned and joined the altercation.

In order to intimidate the people, one person slapped an old man who was standing by and who had no part in the incident. This provoked the people further and the clash intensified. The people helped the old man and came to blows with the committee members. The number of people grew and the committee members began to fire into the air.

One bullet fired by a committee official hit and wounded a woman sitting in a window in a house over the baker's shop when she was watching the fight below. Her husband and her sons came out of the house with [words indistinct] and clashed with the committee members. According to our correspondent in this clash one committee official was killed and three others were injured. [Words indistinct] also died before he reached hospital.

Nejat-e Iran: Petrochemical Plant Abandoned
GF161857 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Jun 85

[Text] A Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondent reports that according to sources close to the Iranian Petroleum Ministry in Kuzestan, the Iranian Petroleum Ministry has given up the petrochemical project in Bandar Shahpur, and the work at the major industrial concern is at standstill. Last week a Revolutionary Guards unit was assigned the task of moving all useful machinery from the petrochemical plant to Abadan and Khorramshahr, with the aid of naval personnel. The petrochemical installations have been so far hit six times with Exocet missiles from Iraqi aircraft.

A Japanese engineer who was the last expert to arrive in that locality, and had arrived there only 20 days before, told the Radio Nejat-e correspondent that in the last bombardment by the Iraqis one month ago, a major part of the very complicated industrial machinery at this major productive unit, which was the heart of the petrochemical plant, was reduced to scrap. It was worth millions of dollars.

Some 160 Japanese experts of (?Mitsi) Company of Japan, who had hoped to continue work at Bandar Shahpur, are now in Tehran at the Hilton Hotel, awaiting the arrival of a Japanese plane to evacuate them from Iran.

Nejat-e Iran Radio: Fire, Strike in Tank Factory
GF140433 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Jun 85

[Text] A Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondent in Masjed-e Soleyman reports that for the second time this year the Army tank factory in Masjed-e Soleyman has been set ablaze, and a part of this military unit's technical and production installations, which is run by the industrial section of the Ministry of Defense, has been set on fire.

At the beginning of the month of Farvardin [21 March-20 April] this year the workers of the sugar mill in Masjed-e Soleyman went on strike. While gathering in the workers' dining hall they put their demands in a 12-article communique and submitted it to the heads of the mill. Captain [name indistinct], commanding officer of the production unit, issued orders to the armed guards of the mill and also asked the members of the Islamic society to attack the homes of the workers and to harass and beat their family members. In this clash several were wounded and injured and several were imprisoned, and a high-ranking instructor of the Army was killed. As a result the commander of this mill was transferred.

The Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondent adds that a few days later the supply dept warehouse of this Army tank factory was blown up. This deliberate fire remained ablaze for 12 hours despite efforts of the oil company fire-fighting squad. After this strike the workers of this factory stood up in confrontation, and although a number of them were detained and imprisoned, they remained on strike.